Delay recognition to college/university course

†1847. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN':
SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the students have to suffer due to the delay in the process of granting recognition for courses to the colleges or universities;

(b) if so, Government's reaction in this regard;

(c) whether Government would declare the date of commencement of the academic year as the last date for recognition in order to check the delay in taking decision to grant recognition; and

(d) if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT [DR. (SHRIMATI) RITA VERMA]: (a) to (d) According to the information furnished by the University Grants Commission, the universities are autonomous organizations and have the authority to introduce new courses on their own.

Computer Literacy and Studies in Schools

1848. SHRI K. M. KHAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of schools covered under the Computer Literacy and Studies in Schools (CLASS), State-wise , as on 31st March, 2002;

(b) the criterion adopted for selection of schools under the scheme;

(c) whether private schools are also covered under the scheme;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the target fixed for coverage of more schools under the scheme; and

(f) the total amount sanctioned and spent under the scheme?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF SATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT [DR. (SHRIMATI) RITA VERMA]: (a) The revised Computer Literacy and Studies in Schools (CLASS) scheme has been launched during 2001-2002. During the financial year 2001-2002 funds have been released for 3112 schools under the revised CLASS scheme. A Statement showing the number of schools in annexed.

(b) As per the criteria adopted for the revised CLASS scheme, grant-in-aid is provided to State Governments/UTs on the basis of Computer Education Plans (CEPs) submitted by them. The CEP would indicate the steps already taken by the States/UTs and the assistance, which they now require. The CEPs are examined by the Project Monitoring & Evaluation Group (PM & EG) headed by Education Secretary and funds are allocated to the States/UTs on recommendations of PM & EG. Under the revised CLASS scheme, grant-in-aid is provided only to Government and government-aided schools.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) No specific targets have been fixed as far as States/UTs are concerned. The coverage of schools in States/UTs would depend on the Computer Education Plans (CEPs) submitted by the States/UTs. However, a target of imparting computer literacy to 10,000 neighbourhood schools over 3 years has been fixed for KVS & NVS.

(f) During 2001-2002, an amount of Rs. 140.74 crores had been sanctioned to 19 States/UTs. Out of this, an amount of Rs. 70.23 crores had been released as 1st instalment to the States/UTs. Besides KVS and NVS have been sanctioned Rs. 17.75 crores and Rs. 14.25 crores respectively for establishing SMART schools and Universalisation of Computer Education. Out of this, an amount of Rs. 2 crores has been released to KVS and an amount of Rs. 1.63 crores has been released to NVS during 2001-2002. A Statement showing amount sanctioned and released during 2001-2002 is enclosed. (Refer to Statement appendled to the answer to Unstarred Question No. 1846).